

Missouri 2004 WHIP Program Policies

The following is a summary of the conservation components that are eligible for WHIP financial assistance. Planned conservation practices must comply with all federal, state, and local laws and regulations.

All conservation practices and components receiving financial assistance unless otherwise stated in the program policies must:

1. Be maintained for the life-span of the practice as defined in the WHIP manual or WHIP contract, whichever is more and;
2. Comply with the conservation practice standards in the Field Office Technical Guide.

Conservation Practice extents eligible for financial assistance are the minimum extents specified in the practice standard. Extents above the minimum necessary to meet practice criteria are not eligible for additional payment. Information about each conservation practice is located in the Missouri NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>.

The applicant is responsible for the installation, use, and maintenance of all components required in the conservation management system.

Cost share rates are shown below for each conservation practice. See also Section IV of the Missouri Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG) at (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>), for the conservation practice standard of each practice listed below.

327 Conservation Cover		
	Only those grasses/forbs/legumes and associated mixtures containing 60% or more of species rated as "good" or "excellent" for wildlife (as listed in the Table 2 of the 327 Conservation Cover conservation practice standard) will be allowed.	COST SHARE: AC Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
342 Critical Area Planting		
	Cost share is authorized for those areas that usually cannot be stabilized by ordinary conservation treatment and management and if left untreated can cause severe soil erosion or sediment damage.	COST SHARE: AC Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
647 Early Successional Habitat Development/Management		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice for the maintenance on plant communities that are suitable for wildlife. As plant communities age, they may require disturbance to encourage early successional vegetation. Treatment should result in 30-50% bare ground. This treatment is limited to 2 times per 5 year period on the same acres.	COST SHARE: AC Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
382 Fence		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice to exclude livestock from areas that need protection or to control domestic livestock while permitting wildlife movement.	COST SHARE: AC Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
386 Field Border		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice when it is applied to provide wildlife food and cover. For wildlife benefits, field borders will be a minimum of 30 feet wide. Select herbaceous species that are rated good to excellent for wildlife cover and establish according to the 327 Conservation Cover standard.	COST SHARE: AC Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
393 Filter Strip		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice to restore, create, or enhance herbaceous habitat for wildlife. The "Additional Criteria for Wildlife" must be used in conjunction with one of the other stated purposes in the filter strip conservation practice standard. See 342 Critical Area Planting for seeding the filter strip and 327 Conservation Cover for seeding the additional filter strip area for wildlife. Only those grasses/forbs/legumes and associated mixtures containing 60% or more of species rated as "good" or "excellent" for wildlife (as listed in the Table 2 of the 327 Conservation Cover conservation practice standard) will be allowed on the additional filter strip area for wildlife.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
655 Forest Harvest Trails and Landings		
	Cost share is authorized for the installation of forest harvest trails and landings and for their re-vegetation with wildlife friendly grasses and legumes. Harvest trails/landings will be of a size, gradient, number and location to accomplish tree removal and transport while minimizing adverse site impacts.	COST SHARE: FR. Cost share will be a flat rate of \$300 for the first 20 acres and \$20 for each additional acre.
490 Forest Site Preparation		
	Cost share is authorized for mechanical, chemical or burning activities to prepare a site for natural regeneration or artificial establishment of woody cover. Reimbursement will be based on the light, medium or heavy intensity.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.

666 Forest Stand Improvement		
	Cost share is authorized in areas where thinning will be done with a wildlife component as the primary objective. Reduce the stand to 60% stocking or less to encourage fuller crown development, earlier seed production, and heavier herbaceous plant development. This practice is for wildlife habitat development/enhancement - it is not a timber production practice under WHIP. Cut trees/trimmings will be piled or felled in such a manner to create brushpiles.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
	Activity Basal Area Thinning	
	Light thinning 20 - 30 BA	
	Medium thinning 31 - 40 BA	
	Heavy thinning >40 BA	
561 Heavy Use Area Protection		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice only as a component of RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER (391). Cost share will be limited to fencing, gravel, crushed stone, rip-rap rock, concrete, wood materials, geotextiles, and earth work to construct and protect stream crossings, landings, and trails. Stream crossings will be constructed at the same elevation as the channel bed. Applicant will acquire all COE permits and wetland determinations before practice commencement. Cost share is NOT available for bridges.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
422 Hedgerow Planting		
	Cost share is authorized to establish wildlife travel lanes (linear plantings) that provide cover and food for wildlife and allow wildlife to move safely from one area to another. Native trees and shrubs will be used, based on soil type. Planting trees and/or shrubs on woodland or transitional soils and clumps of shrubs on prairie soils can benefit wildlife. See conservation practice 612 Tree and Shrub Establishment.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
441 Irrigation System, Drip		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice only for TREE/SHRUB ESTABLISHMENT where supplemental water is needed to assure adequate survival and growth. Cost share is available for installing lateral line and appurtenances according to the practice standard. Cost share is also available for the installation of mainlines, submains, and appurtenances according to the requirements of the IRRIGATION WATER CONVEYANCE, HIGH PRESSURE, UNDERGROUND PLASTIC PIPELINE (430-DD) standard. Cost share is not available for filtration, fertigation, and automated zone control units installed as part of the drip system.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
516 Pipeline		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice only as a component of RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER (391) to provide water for livestock on grazing lands where an alternate water supply is being developed.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
338 Prescribed Burning		
	Cost share is authorized for this practice when used to control undesirable vegetation, stimulate herbaceous cover production, remove litter, encourage desired plant composition/structure changes and improve habitat for selected species. A certified prescribed burn plan must be followed for every prescribed burn performed. Firebreaks will be established as necessary. <u>Prescribed burning is limited to no more than 3 times per contract with a \$5000 per contract limit.</u>	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
	A separate cost share item is available for Permanent Constructed Firebreaks (use of a dozer, etc.). These may be required for prescribed burning in savanna, woodland, or glade restoration and is limited to a one time payment. This component is not available for any other habitat type.	
643 Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats		
	Cost share is authorized for restoring and conserving rare or declining native vegetated communities and associated wildlife species. This practice and choice of components will be based on soil and site condition. Management is an integral component of this practice.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
391 Riparian Forest Buffer		
	Cost share is authorized to establish an area of trees and/or shrubs located adjacent and up-gradient from water bodies. Native trees/shrubs will be used as appropriate for the soil type - see conservation practice 612, Tree and Shrub Establishment. <u>Alternate Water Supply (limit one per contract)</u> - Prevents the use of the stream as a livestock water source. Can be only used in conjunction with a riparian buffer plan that excludes or restricts livestock access to a stream.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
580 Streambank and Shoreline Protection		
	Cost share is authorized to establish vegetation or structures to stabilize and protect banks of streams, lakes, or excavated channels against scour and erosion while maintaining or improving habitat for fish and wildlife. Because each reach of a channel or lake is unique, measures for streambank and shore protection must be installed according to a plan and adapted to the specific site. Streambank protection will be integrated with total stream corridor management. See conservation practice 391 Riparian Forest Buffer. Tree revetments are limited to \$2000 per contract. Rock blanket or barbs are limited to \$7500 per contract.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.

587	Structure or Water Control	
	Cost share is authorized for the establishment of a structure for water control and associated dirt work. Cost share is limited to \$1,500 per structure.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
612	Tree / Shrub Establishment	
	Cost share is authorized for the establishment of trees and shrubs, site preparation, weed control and irrigation. A minimum of 3 rows must be established. Woody species must benefit targeted wildlife species. Cost share for container grown trees are limited to \$5000 per contract.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
660	Tree and Shrub Pruning	
	Cost share is authorized to root prune woody roots that are impacting adjacent fields that are competing for plant moisture and nutrients. Root pruning is not authorized for pruning adjacent (opposite) sides of linear plantings within a 3 year interval.	COST SHARE: FR. Cost share will be a flat rate of \$0.05 per liner foot (not per acre) of the practice that is established.
614	Trough or Tank	
	Cost share is authorized for this practice only as a component of RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER (391) where an alternate water supply is being developed.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
645	Upland Wildlife Habitat Management	
	<p>Undesirable species eradication - Chemical/mechanical methods will be used to eliminate undesirable species from a field prior to reseeded/renovation with wildlife related cover. Chemical/mechanical means to control these plants in an existing stand of wildlife friendly vegetation is allowed under this practice.</p> <p>Herbaceous Vegetation Establishment - will be used for green browse areas.</p> <p>Woody Cover Control - Associated with native grassland communities such as prairies, savannas, or glades and must meet target plant community needs. Grasslands with wildlife-friendly grasses may receive cost share IF necessary. Woody cover control can be the removal of overstory trees from fencerows, woody draws, within field tree encroachment, etc. Stumps MUST be treated with a chemical to prevent re-sprouting. Cost share for stump treatment is limited to one time for the contract period.</p> <p>The end product for savanna restoration is a 10-30% woody canopy remaining that is evenly distributed across the treatment field (site conditions allowing).</p> <p>The end product for prairie restoration is no more than 10% woody canopy remaining.</p> <p><u>Light control</u> = existing field <60% woody cover for savanna and <40% woody cover for prairie. <u>Medium control</u> = existing field 60-80% woody cover for savanna and 40-60% woody cover for prairie. <u>Heavy control</u> = existing field >80% woody cover for savanna and >60% for prairie. May also include individual tree removal due to areas inaccessible to mechanical removal methods.</p> <p>Native shrubs and vines will be preserved (or plantings made as needed) and tree/trimmings will be piled and left for wildlife.</p> <p>Tree trimmings will be piled and left for wildlife only in areas that will not be burned.</p> <p>In the Loess Hills areas, both burning and chemical treatment are required for prairie restoration in conjunction with woody cover control.</p> <p>Woody Edge Development - Fenceline/woody draw/woody edge renovation by removal of overstory trees. Native shrubs and vines will be preserved (or plantings made as needed) and tree/trimmings will be piled or felled in such a manner to create brushpiles/downed trees structures. A minimum of 30 feet will be developed/maintained as woody edge.</p> <p>Treatment of cut stumps is optional and based on the site and the desired vegetation. If treatment is necessary, the cost share for stump treatment is limited to one time for the contract period.</p> <p>For edge development to be effective, it may be necessary to eliminate undesirable vegetation in the area of woody edge development. The eradication of undesirable species cost share can be used to treat these areas in woody edge development.</p> <p>Mechanical treatment refers to the use of a dozer, "Kansas" clipper, etc. DOWNED TREE STRUCTURE COST SHARE CANNOT BE COMBINED WITH WOODY EDGE DEVELOPMENT.</p> <p>Nesting Structures - Built and placed according to recommendations of a wildlife biologist.</p> <p>Interseeding Forbs/Legumes - will be interseeded based on rates and procedures in conservation practice 327 - Conservation Cover or 643 - Restoration and Management of Declining Habitats.</p>	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.

	<p>Permanent Forest Openings - This practice component can be used to establish permanent woodland openings in wooded tracts. The end results are complete removal of the canopy cover to basal area of zero.</p> <p>Light removal = existing stand < 50% stocked</p> <p>Medium removal = existing stand 50-80% stocked</p> <p>Heavy removal = > 80% stocked</p> <p>Maximum of 3 acres per 40 acres of contiguous forest cover.</p> <p>All cut stumps must be treated to prevent re-growth. The cost share for stump treatment is limited to one time for the contract period.</p> <p>BWQ Covey Headquarters - Quail covey headquarters are small tree/shrub seedlings planted in a clump planting at least 30 X 50 ft. spacing (5 X 5) within the clump planting. Use no weed mat (spreading of shrubs is desired). Herbaceous vegetation control is required. See conservation practice 612 Tree and Shrub Establishment for planting methods, etc.</p> <p>Container grown shrubs - 7 X 7 spacing in a 30 X 50 ft. area. Use no weed mat, as spreading of shrubs is desired, and provide starter fertilizer. Herbaceous vegetation control is required. See conservation practice 612 Tree and Shrub Establishment for planting methods, etc.</p> <p>Species to plant - gray dogwood, rough leaf dogwood, blackberry, fragrant sumac, American plum, Chickasaw plum, hazelnut, false indigo bush, elderberry, chokecherry, shrub lespedeza, and nannyberry. Other species can be approved for use by the NRCS or MDC wildlife planner.</p> <p>Downed Tree Structure - Place downed trees (minimum 20' height and well branched) in and around shrub plantings or food plots. At least 3 downed trees per structure are required. Recommended oak, hickory or cedar.</p> <p>Downed tree structures need to be placed on bare ground or on areas where herbaceous vegetation is controlled. (Includes site preparation, chemicals, downed tree placement, etc.)</p> <p>Cost share for this component cannot be combined with woody edge development</p> <p>Container Grown Prairie Cordgrass - Use of this component will be determined by soil and site conditions. Includes seedbed preparation and plants. Plant at 220 plants per acre using a 1 gallon container plant split into fourths. Requires 55 one-gallon containers per acre.</p>	
351	Well Decommissioning	
	Cost share is authorized for well plugging or decommissioning for wells or other under-surface excavations where there is potential for groundwater contamination by surface activities. Plugging abandoned wells can help protect and improve groundwater quality for cavefish and other cave species, as well as improve overall ground water quality.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
644	Wetland Wildlife Habitat Management	
	Provide conditions to improve habitat for wetland-associated flora and fauna.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
648	Wildlife Watering Facility	
	Cost share is authorized when lack of adequate water has been identified as the limiting wildlife habitat component. New or additional watering places can increase the range and distribution of wildlife, providing drinking water and habitat for herptiles.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.
380	Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment	
	Cost share is authorized for this practice when the design and plant species selection benefit targeted wildlife species. Trees/shrubs will be planted according to the practice standard, based on soil type. A three row windbreak is a minimum and weed control is required.	COST SHARE: AC. Cost share will be 75% of the county average cost.